



# Brecksville

---

## United Church of Christ

23 Public Square • Brecksville • Ohio • 4414

### *Affirmation of Welcome*

*We are an Open and Affirming  
Congregation, welcoming ALL of  
God's children.*

*Whether you are single, married,  
divorced, separated, or partnered,  
Whatever your race, ethnicity, or  
age,*

*Whatever your gender identity or  
sexual orientation,*

*Whatever your religious  
background, creed, or spirituality,  
Whatever your social or economic  
circumstances,*

*Whatever your health conditions,  
impairments, or mobility needs,  
Whoever we may be, wherever  
we are on our life's journey,*

*We welcome one another to this  
place,*

*Even as God welcomes us all in  
Jesus Christ!*



*Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30am - 1:30pm*

*Church Phone: 440-526-4364*

*e-mail: [buccoffice23@gmail.com](mailto:buccoffice23@gmail.com) – web address: [www.BrecksvilleUCC.org](http://www.BrecksvilleUCC.org)*

**Pastor**

• Jeff Jackson

**Financial Secretary**

• Wes Novak

**Office Manager**

• Miranda Lacefield

**Music Director**

• Bret Tassone

**\*\*LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST\*\***

- Please sign our guest book in the narthex before you leave - if you are interested in learning more about our church, please feel free to speak to our pastor.
- Hearing difficulty? Please talk to any usher about a Personal Sound receiver available for your use.

## **Announcements:**

***Please submit the announcements you would like to have printed in the bulletin by noon on Tuesday – Thank You!***

**Missions Café-** We are asking congregants to attend four, one-hour sessions. These are fun, interactive gatherings designed to get everyone's input for the path forward to selecting our new minister. Simply attend one of the days in each session- Session 1, 2, 3 and 4- we've provided time and date options for each session. Mark your calendars and bring your enthusiasm... your input is invaluable!

Session 2: Choose one:

Wednesday, March 4th, 1 pm;  
Sunday March 8th after church,  
Wednesday, March 11th, 6 pm

Session 3: Choose one:

Wednesday, April 1st, 1 pm;  
Wednesday, April 8th, 6 pm;  
Sunday, April 12th after church

Wrap-Up session: Choose one:

Sunday, June 7th after church;  
Wednesday, June 10th, 1 pm  
Wednesday, June 10th, 6 pm

### **Ash Wednesday Worshipful Soup Supper — February 18, 6:30–7:30 PM (Pilgrim Hall)**

Join us as we begin the season of Lent with a worshipful soup supper in Pilgrim Hall. This Ash Wednesday gathering will weave together a shared meal, communion, singing, special music from the choir, reflection on masks and unmasking, and the imposition of ashes — **all as one service of worship!** Rather than dinner followed by worship, the meal itself is part of the worship experience as we enter Lent together in prayer, honesty, and community.

We are seeking three volunteers to provide soup (including one vegetarian option) and at least four loaves of bread. If you are able to help, please contact David Pastor (440-552-4403 or ridave@hotmail.com) or use the signup link in your email.

Attendance last Sunday, February 8, 2026 – Adults: 43; Kids: 5; Online: 5;  
Additional Views: 15; Total: 68

**Paint and Sip-** Get ready for a night of creativity, color, and great company— Fellowship has scheduled a Paint & Sip night just for you (guests welcome!) Join us at BUCC on Friday, March 6 at 6:30 pm for a fun, laid-back evening where we'll paint, sip, and socialize. The cost is \$34 per person, and we're aiming for at least 20 participants (the more the merrier!) A firm commitment is needed by Friday, February 27, and signing up is easy—payment will go directly to the event organizers through a provided link. Bring a snack to share and your own wine, and Fellowship will take care of pop and water. Grab a friend, save your spot, and sign up soon—this is one you won't want to miss! 🎨🍷✨



**To Donate Electronically** – If you would like to make a donation to Brecksville United Church of Christ with your phone, please scan this QR code. If you need assistance, ask an usher - or a grandchild. Thank you!

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR includes the following**

- Tue. Feb 17                    6:00 pm – AA “Love & Tolerance” (Pilgrim Hall)  
   7:30 pm – Communication and Outreach
- Wed. Feb 18                    11:00 am – Mindfulness and Meditation  
   6:30 pm -- Ash Wednesday Worshipful Soup Supper
- Thu. Feb 19                    10:30 am – Called to Care  
   12:00 pm —Thriving Church Study Group  
   7:00 pm – Choir Practice

**Volunteers:**

	<b><u>February 15, 2026</u></b>	<b><u>February 22, 2026</u></b>
Early Usher:	Evelyn Seager	Evelyn Seager
Late Usher:	Sue Stenzel	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Greeter:	Lori Molesky	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Reader:	Jill Zedan	Jim Duffy
Flowers:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Counters:	Jan Renovetz	Jan Renovetz
	Sue Stenzel	Sue Stenzel
A/V:	David Pastor	Fred Pedersen
Snack:	Carole Snider	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Set up:	Carole Snider	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
	Betsey Wilson	
Clean Up:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Communion Bread:	Gayle Colbert	N/A
Snow Herder:	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>

**Transfiguration Sunday  
Mardi Gras Service  
Sunday February 15, 2026**

**Prelude** "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands" arr. Brant Adams

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Bringing of the Light**

**Silent Meditation**

**\*Call to Worship** Slow Me Down (Call and Response with the Choir)

Choir - Slow me down **ALL: Slow me down**; Still my restless mind, **Still my restless mind**; Quell my fears, **Quell my fears**; Quench my thirsty soul, **Quench my thirsty soul**; Fill me with your love, **Fill me with your love**; God of truth, **God of truth**; God of love, **God of love**

**\*Call to Prayer**

One: Come to me and wait. I will give you instructions and commandments in written form.

**Many: We come to you and we wait, to see and hear what you will say.**

One: In days past, I wrote on stone tablets, but now I write my words upon your heart that you may teach them.

**Many: We offer our hearts to receive your words and what we learn, we'll teach others.**

One: Heaven is open above you and the kin-dom is within you.

**All: Wherever we go, the kin-dom comes.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** "When the Saints Go Marching In"

1. Oh, when the saints go marching in; (twice)  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in.
2. Oh, when the sun begins to shine; (twice)  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the sun begins to shine.
3. Oh, when we see the truth at last; (twice)  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when we see the truth at last.
4. Oh, when we join our hands as one; (twice)  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when we join our hands as one.
5. Oh, when the saints go marching in; (twice)  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in.

**\*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**God who invited Moses to come up the mountain to receive from you, we invite you to come among us and receive from us. May we become more whole as we wait in confident expectation of the deepening of the love that is shared between us. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Grace**

**\*Gathering Song**

*Glory to God*

Pablo Sosa 1988



Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the high - est, And on earth be



peace to all peo - ple, for God loves us all.

**First Reading: Romans 15: 1-13**

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us must please our neighbor for the good purpose of building up the neighbor. For Christ did not please himself, but, as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles

and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,

and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;  
in him the gentiles shall hope.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Second Reading: Matthew 17:1-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light.

Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.

But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."

And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

### **Continuing Testament**

By Diane Gressley

#### **Borderlands**

America, the beautiful!!

Mountains majesty.

Towering cacti.

Birds calling.

Javelinas roaming.

America, the beautiful??

High walls, double layered.

Razor sharp wire.

Rebar-spiked shadows loom.

Red dots and crosses multiply.

My head cannot wrap itself  
Around what my heart laments.

Presente...

**Time with young worshipers**

**Anthem**

River in Judea arr. John Lewitt

**Sermon**

“Resisting by being a loving community” By Rev. David Loar

**Hymn of Reflection**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**#506**

**Prayers of the Church**

**In our Prayers**



Jon Thompson, Marilyn Pay, Tina Ortiz, Cindy Burton, Jan Wardlaw, Kathleen Stewart, Kathy Repko, Lois Lorenzo, Tony Cuninghame, Chad Sproul, Dot and Stu Bailey, Jane Cribbs, Kathy Ford, Midge Cassidy, Gabe Tassone, Sue Stenzel, Carolyn Chandler, Mirium Rosewitz, “Edna House”, people who are unemployed and under employed.

*(Please let the office know of any additions, corrections, or changes to our prayer lists.)*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Silent Meditation**

**The Savior’s Prayer: [Unison]**

**Our Father-Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offering Music**

Amazing Grace arr. Robert S. Wallace, II



**\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication: [Unison]**

**Patient One, receive these gifts that we could hardly wait to give you. May they be used to meet the needs of those who have been waiting for relief.**

## Communion Invitation

ALL are welcome to receive communion. No exceptions.

## Communion Hymn

Be Still and Know

#743

During the hymn, please come forward up the center aisle to gather a piece of bread and a cup and return to your seats via the outer aisles.

We will partake each together as directed. A gluten-free loaf is being used for communion today.

## Invitation to Share the Bread and Cup

### Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion [Unison]

Gracious God,

**we give thanks for this meal and for the grace made known among us. Let this gratitude shape how we live and how we care for one another. Amen.**

### \*Hymn of Departure

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Ev'rywhere I go...

Jesus gave it to me...

**\*Circle of Community** Please join us in a circle around the sanctuary and lift your voices together and again after the benediction.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja. Hal-le, hal-le, hal - le - lu - ja.

Chord symbols: A, E, A, D, Bm, E, A, C#7, F#m, Bm, E7sus4, E7, A.

### \*Benediction

### Postlude

When the Saints Go Marching In

Special thank you to this week's musicians- Tim Shaffer and Armand Eusanio!